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MAHDERE-SEBEHAT LEDETA LEMARIAM
ETHIOPIAN ORTHODOX
TEWAHEDO CHURCH



**Lessons are prepared by Ledeta LeMariam
Sunday School
Alexandria, Virginia**

In the name of the
Father, and the Son, and
the Holy Spirit, one God.
Amen.



Begin with the Lord's prayer

Our Lord and Savior, our King and God, we thank you for gathering us here to stand before you to call on your Holy Name.

Heavenly Father, teach us to trust You in everything we do.

Our God open our eyes, ears, hearts and minds that we may hear Your Word and tell our friends about your glory and honor.

Bless all the children and keep them safe. Hear us when we humbly and thankfully pray to you.

Our Father, who art in heaven

Hallowed be thy name,

Thy kingdom come,

Thy will be done

On earth as it is in heaven

Give us this day our daily bread

And forgive us our trespasses

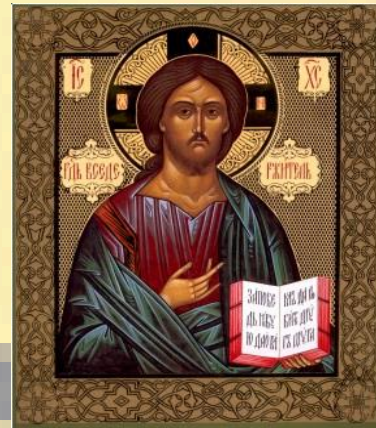
As we forgive those who trespass against us

And lead us not into temptation

But deliver us from the evil one

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the

Glory. Forever, Amen.



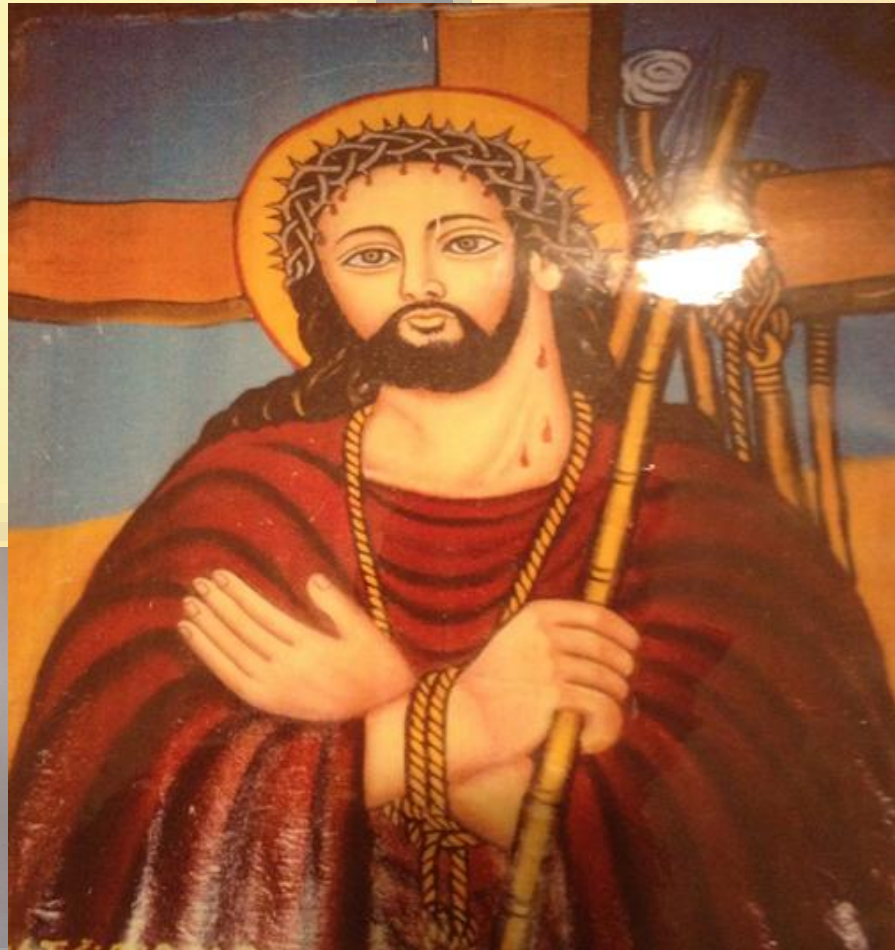
O our Lady, as St. Gabriel greeted you, “Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.” True Virgin in conscience as well as body, blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

Holy Mary, the God-bearer, pray that your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, may forgive us our sins. Amen.



Say The Jesus Prayer 3 times

**Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
have mercy on me, a sinner.**



MEMORY VERSE

**Can anyone tell me
last week's
memory verse???**

Recite Last week's memory verse

“The time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them; then they will fast.

(Matthew 9:15)








Review



1. What was the first commandment of God for Adam and Eve?
 - Fasting - do not eat of this tree
2. Who took Daniel and the 3 young men captive?
 - The Babylonians
3. What did the king want to do with Daniel and his friends?
 - Make them strong so they can serve in the royal courts
4. What kinds of food did they want Daniel to eat?
 - Meat, Wine, and Sweets
5. Why did Daniel refuse?
 - Because he was Fasting
6. How long did Daniel and his friends fast and what happened to them ?
 - They kept this fast for 3 years and there were stronger, wiser and better than all the rest of the men.

Class Covenant

I will keep my  on my teacher,
my  in control,
my s on God's Word;
knowing God is my goal.

The Fiery Furnace



December 01, 2013

Memorize today's Verse

“Fear not stand firm and see the salvation of the Lord.”

Exodus 14:13



**Practice this verse
again during the
week.**



"Look! I see four men walking in the midst of the fire."

Purpose:

**Purpose: To teach courage –
through Christ.**

(Daniel 3)





Nebuchadnezzar was a powerful king of Babylon. The time of his reign was 600 years before the birth of Christ, and the size of his empire was very great indeed.



Within the royal court were people of many different languages and customs, people that had been conquered by the king and then forced to help him rule.



On one occasion, King Nebuchadnezzar summoned the various rulers of the provinces to gather in the court, and he watched them assemble from his royal pavilion. This was a special occasion, and no one would dare not to come.



The king stood up. The great moment had arrived. By standing, the king was giving the signal that the court was to come to order.



Trumpeters stepped forward and sounded a royal fanfare.



And the herald, whose job it was to read the official announcements, stepped forth with a big scroll in his hands.



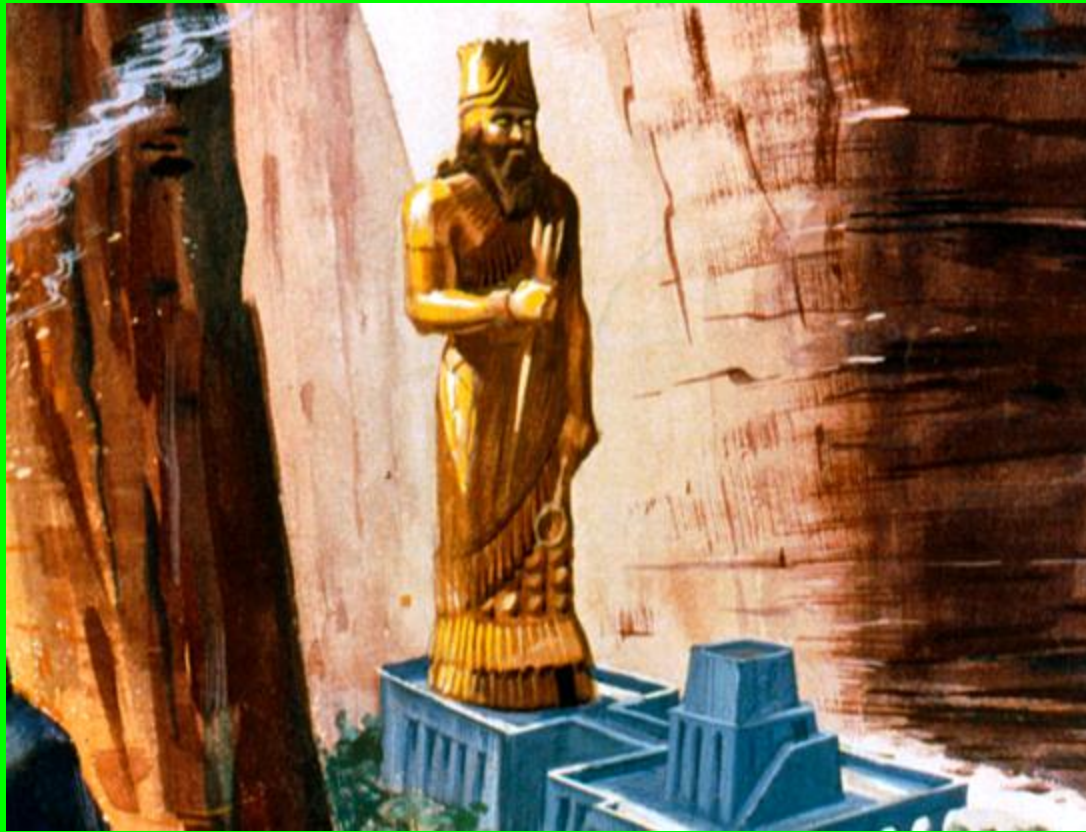
The captains and the princes and the governors all stood very quietly, waiting to hear what the message from the king would be. As they listened, they heard the herald read:



“O people, nations, languages, hear ye the king’s command!” And the herald went on to tell them that the king had a gigantic statue made in his own likeness.



The statue was 90 feet [28 metres] tall, and made of gold.



This was to be their god. At the sound of the musical instruments, everyone was to bow down and worship this golden image.



The next thing the people heard was enough to put fear in the hearts of even the bravest men:

“Who so falls not down, and worships the image of the king, shall the same hour be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.”



So when the musical instruments played.



...the people fell down and worshiped the golden image, just as the king had commanded them to do.



Two Chaldeans were worshiping close together when suddenly one of them saw something that made him tug at the other one's robe, in an effort to get his attention.



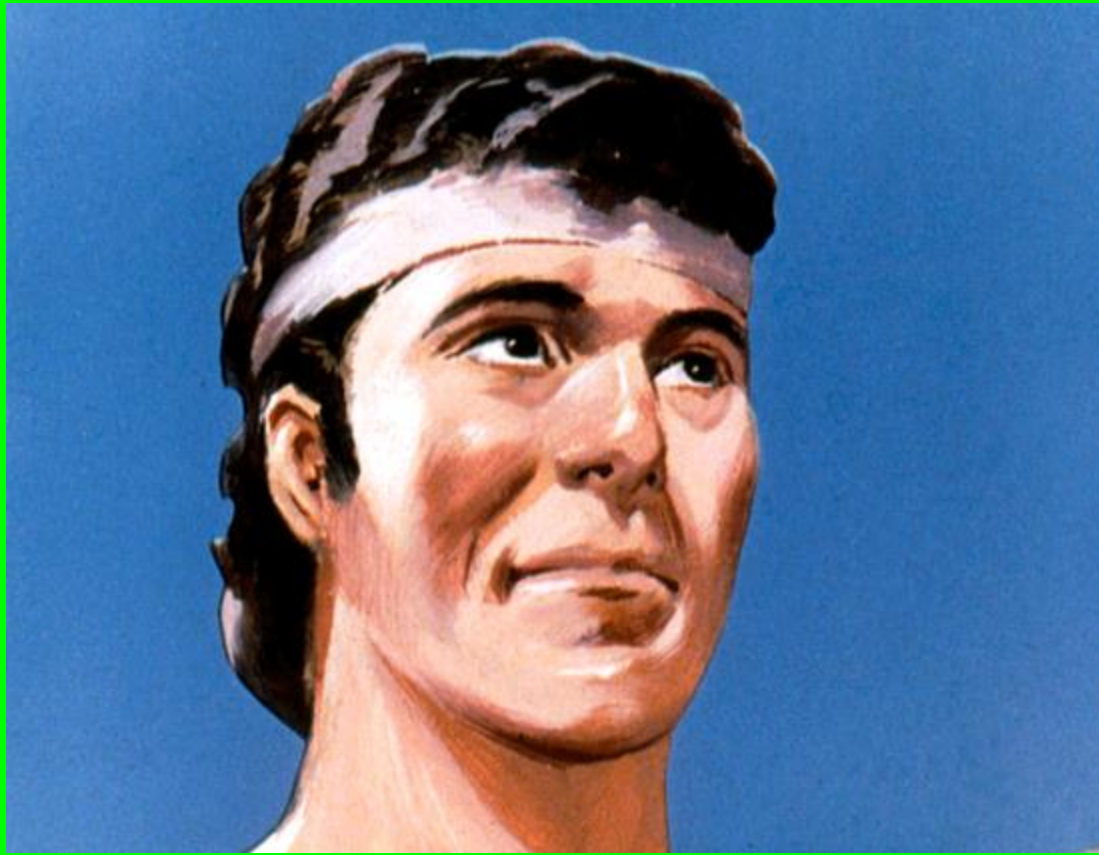
“Look!” the Chaldean said. “It’s just as we thought! The three of them, see? They’re not bowing down. They’re refusing to worship the golden image.”



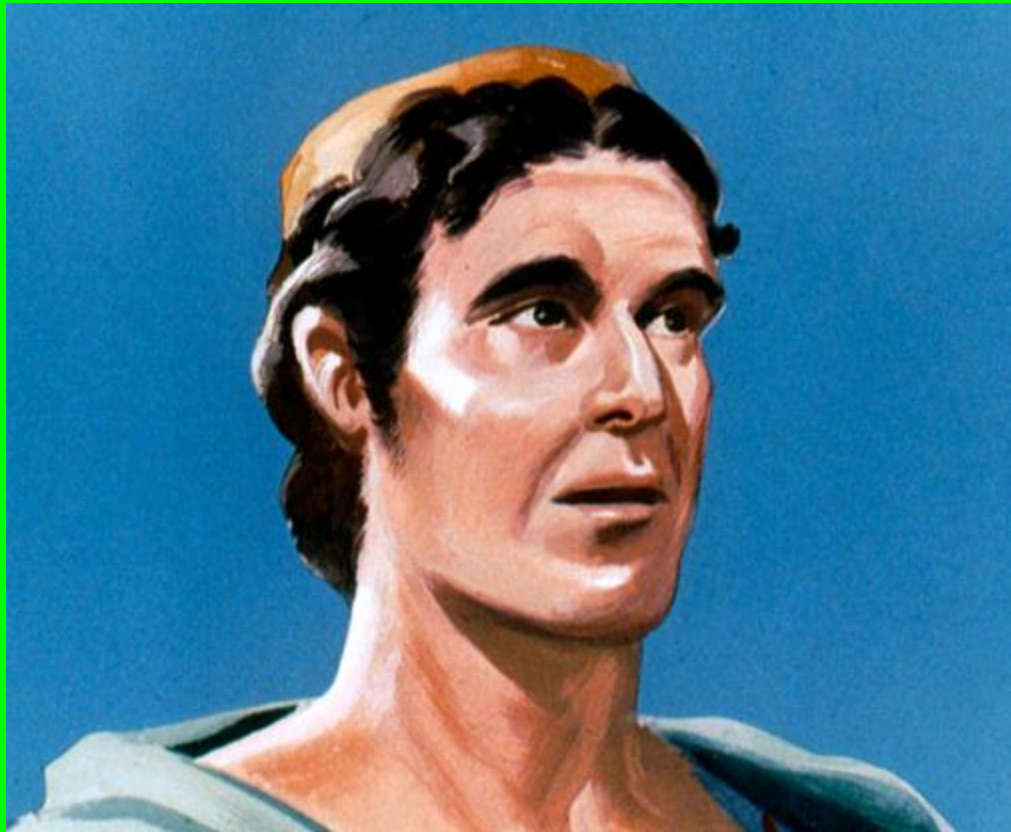
And the Chaldean was absolutely right. Three young princes, the rulers of the capital city itself, were openly disobeying the king.



These men had been brought as captives from the distant land of Judah. Their names had been changed, and because of their abilities they had been given high positions within the kingdom.



Hananiah, “Beloved of God,” was called Shadrach, or “Circuit of the sun.”



Mishael's cherished name was changed from
“One who is like God,” to the heathen name,
Meshach, meaning “Sun god.”



And Azariah, whose name meant “The Lord is my help,” came to be known as Abednego, “The god of commerce.”



Nebuchadnezzar had changed the names of Hananiah, Michael and Azariah, but their hearts remained the same. These men believed in God as the One, the Almighty God. To kneel down before an image was something God had told them never to do.



The two Chaldeans lost no time reporting what they had seen to the king. They were jealous of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.



And they slyly reminded King Nebuchadnezzar that these men that had refused to bow down before the image were the very men the king had placed over the affairs of Babylon.



“How dare these men disobey me!” shouted the king.



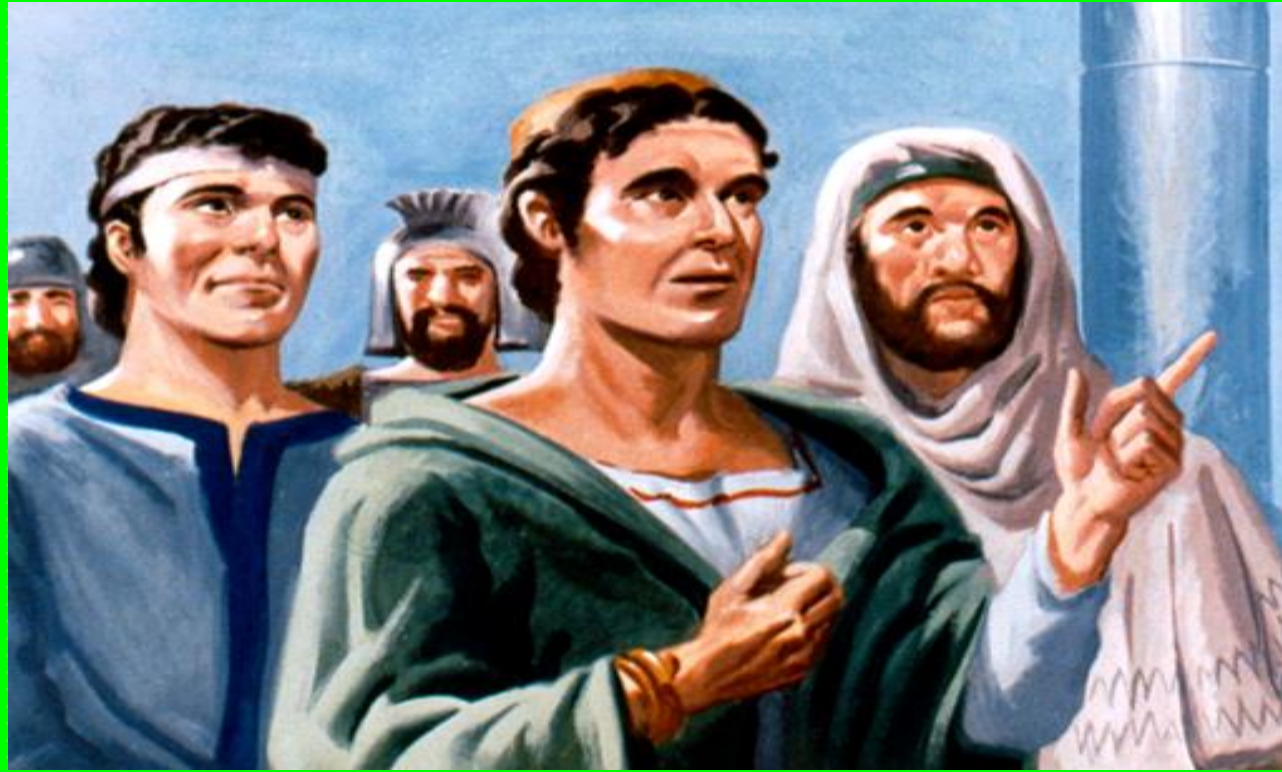
Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were hurried to the royal pavilion. The king asked if it was true that they had refused to bow down and worship the golden image. And they told the king, yes, it was true.



King Nebuchadnezzar's pride was about the most important thing he had, and for these three young men to openly disobey him, even in the face of death, was a serious blow to a man of his importance.



So the mighty ruler of the vast Babylonian empire decided he would give the men another chance. If only they would do as they had been told, he would forgive them for their disobedience.



But the brave young men replied, “Our God is able to deliver us out of your hand, O King. But even if He chooses not to, we will never serve your gods nor worship your golden image.”



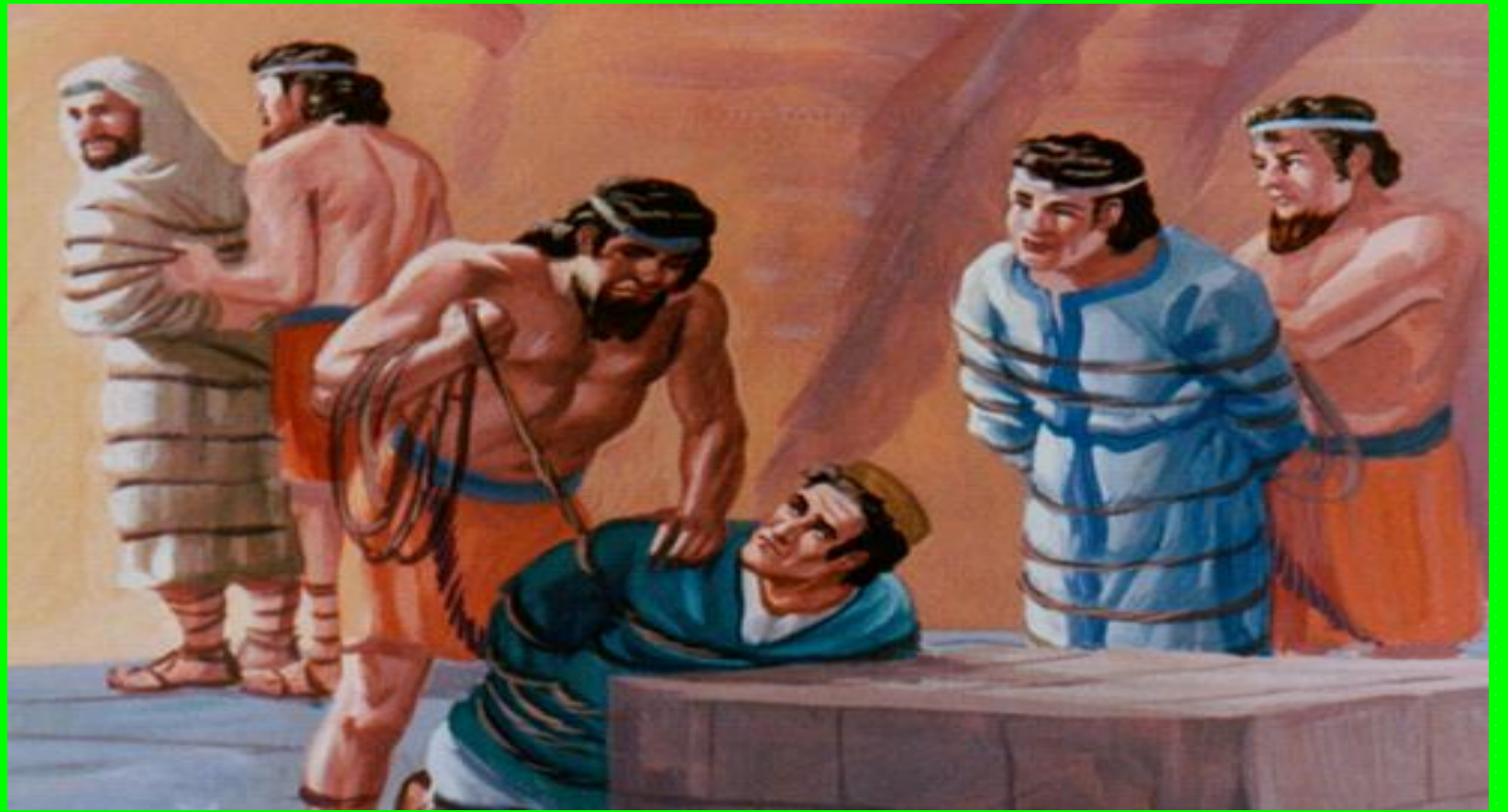
The king was furious! He commanded the furnace be made seven times hotter than it usually was.



And he ordered that Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego be taken to the furnace and put to death for their wilful disobedience.



It wasn't long until the fiery furnace was made seven times hotter than it usually was.



The three young men from Judah were securely tied.



And one by one they were thrown into the midst of the flames.



Shadrach, who was Hananiah, “The beloved of God;”



Meshach, who was Mishael, or “One who is like God;”



And Abednego, the one whose real name was Azariah, “The Lord is my help.”



And when the soldiers had thrown them in, they turned and ran from the terrible heat.



But before they could escape, the flames leaped out of the furnace and burned them to a crisp.



Then the king saw something that made him jump to his feet. He couldn't believe it was possible. No! It couldn't be!



Forgetting about his dignity and his pride, King Nebuchadnezzar ran with the rest of the people to get a better look at the strange thing that had happened.



“Look!” shouted the king. “Do all of you see what I see?”



“Did we not throw three men, bound, into the midst of the fire?”



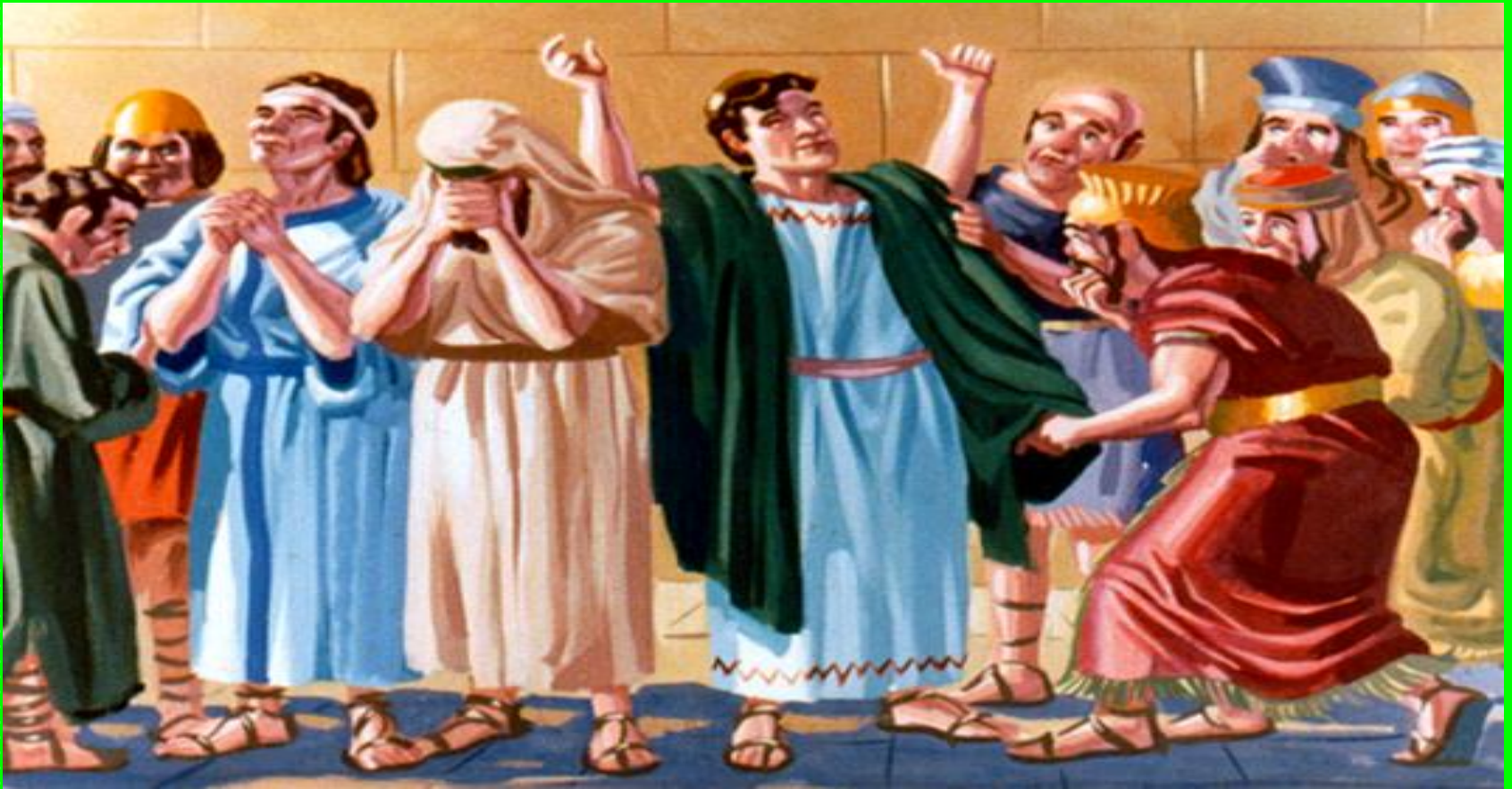
“I see four, and they’re loose and walking around, and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.”



King Nebuchadnezzar knew in his heart that God was the true and the living God. And he called to Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego to come forth, to come out of the flames.



The people were amazed as the three Hebrew boys walked out of the furnace, unharmed by all they had been through.



Not a single hair of their heads was singed. They didn't even smell of smoke.



Nebuchadnezzar fell to his knees, and he lifted up his head and cried, “Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who has delivered his servants who trusted in him.”



Shortly thereafter, a new decree was read to all the nations under Nebuchadnezzar's rule. No one was to speak against the God of the brave young men from Judah.



And Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were promoted to even higher places within the kingdom. But their real happiness was in their freedom to worship God.

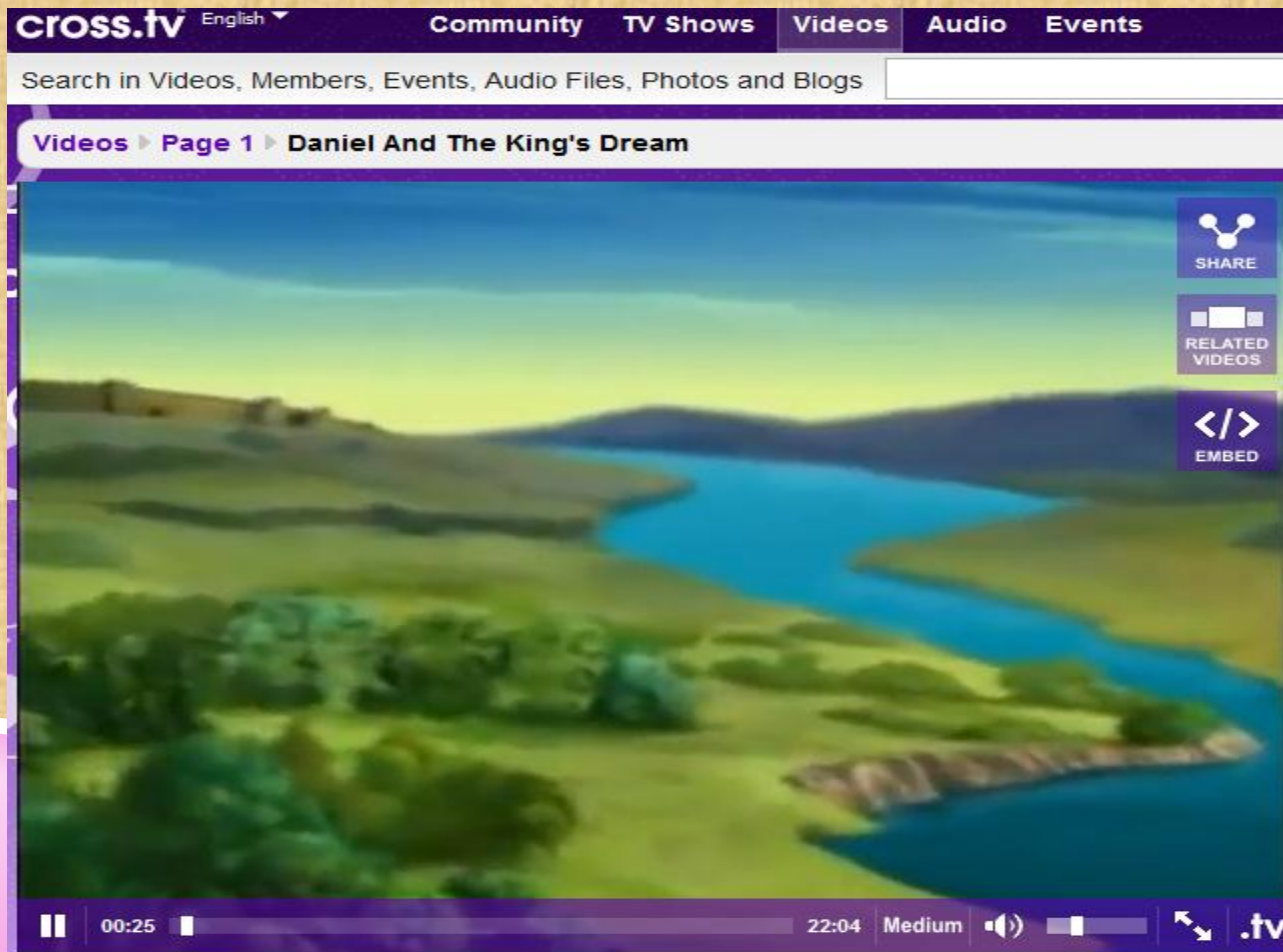
Conclusion

- ▶ **We learn that God is with us all the time.**
- ▶ **The three young men were brave and were not afraid of fire. They knew that God will be with them wherever they go. Because of their faith God turned the fire into coolness.**
- ▶ **Do not imitate the bad people but stick to the Lord. When anyone annoys you say, “I will fear no evil; for God is with me.”**

Movie Clip

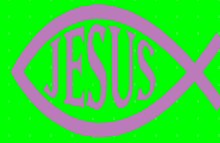
Show a short movie clip about the story, if available.

<http://www.cross.tv/87419>



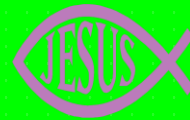
The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the cross.tv website. The navigation bar includes 'cross.tv English', 'Community', 'TV Shows', 'Videos', 'Audio', and 'Events'. A search bar is located below the navigation bar. The main content area shows a video player for 'Daniel And The King's Dream'. The video player interface includes a 'SHARE' button, 'RELATED VIDEOS', and an 'EMBED' button. The video player controls at the bottom show a play/pause button, a progress bar at 00:25, a total duration of 22:04, a 'Medium' quality setting, a volume icon, a full screen icon, and the '.tv' logo.

Pop Quiz



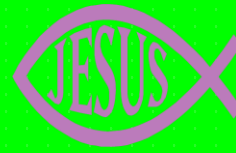
1. Nebuchadnezzar was a powerful king who ruled over a large empire.
 - a) True.
 - b) False.
2. What was everyone commanded to do when they heard the musical instruments play?
 - a) They were to begin singing.
 - b) They were to bow down and worship the golden image.
3. Who refused to bow down and worship the image?
 - a) Some of the king's enemies.
 - b) Three men who had been brought as captives from Judah.

Pop Quiz



4. When Nebuchadnezzar changed their names, these three men stopped believing in the Almighty God.
 - a) True.
 - b) False.
5. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego declared to the king that even if God chose not to deliver them they would never worship his golden image.
 - a) True.
 - b) False.
6. How did Nebuchadnezzar punish the three men?
 - a) By casting them alive into a fiery furnace.
 - b) By throwing them into a den of lions.

Pop Quiz

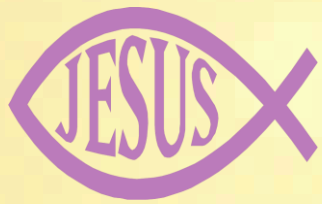


7. What happened to the soldiers who threw in the three men?
 - a) They were eaten by the lions.
 - b) They were burned up by flames that leaped out of the furnace.
8. How many men were seen walking around in the fire?
 - a) Three.
 - b) Four.
9. God Himself had protected them, walked with them in the fire, and delivered them completely unharmed.
 - a) True.
 - b) False.
10. What made these brave men especially happy?
 - a) That they were now free to worship God.
 - b) That they were honored with a great feast.

The End

Next Week

We will learn about
Daniel in the lion's den.



3 things we all can do to strengthen our relationship with God

1. Read the Holy Bible daily preferably when we get up in the morning. 5 minutes to start.
2. Partake Holy Communion regularly.
3. Remember God throughout the day. We can repeat short prayer such as “Lord Jesus Christ have mercy on me.”

JESUS CHRIST

- “For there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:12)





*“And you shall know
the truth, and the
truth shall make you
free.” John 8:32*

Any question?

Close with prayer.

